



# Roseville Fire Department

## Fire & Life Safety Division

316 Vernon Street Suite 480 · Roseville, CA 95678 · (916) 774-5800 · [FLSDivision@roseville.ca.us](mailto:FLSDivision@roseville.ca.us)

### Fire & Life Safety Standard

**Title: Weed Abatement**

**Note:** *This standard is a summary of Roseville Fire Department clarifications of City and State Codes. Information contained herein applies to typical circumstances and may not address all situations.*

#### PURPOSE

This standard was developed with safety as the primary objective, pursuant to the California Fire Code (CFC). The fire code official is authorized to render interpretations of the CFC, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of the CFC and shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in the CFC.

#### SCOPE

This standard shall apply to the abatement of all weeds, grass or other growth capable of being ignited and endangering property. Weed abatement shall be in accordance with the CFC and the City of Roseville Municipal Code (RMC).

#### TIMELINE / PROCEDURE

The timeline listed below is subject to change dependent on the amount of rainfall that occurs or as may be reasonably necessary for the efficient administration of City business.

**April** - The Fire & Life Safety Division will coordinate with the City of Roseville Parks & Recreation Department Open Space Division regarding the current weed abatement contractor. The Fire & Life Safety Division will draft two council communications and corresponding materials to present to the City Council during April.

The first communication includes a corresponding resolution that declares weeds, grass or other growths a public nuisance, identifies the vacant parcels declared to be a public nuisance (based on available City of Roseville GIS data at the time of the report), sets the date for a public hearing, and directs the Fire Chief to provide legal notice to affected property owners.

The second council communication (assuming the aforementioned resolution passes) is a public hearing to be held to hear objections of any affected property owners. This council communication also includes a resolution potentially overruling all objections to the proposed abatement of weeds, grass or other growths, and authorizing the Fire Chief to abate such fire hazards if not abated by the property owner.

Both council communications will be forwarded to the City Clerk to be placed on the Council agenda. Vacant parcels will be identified through the City’s Geographic Information System.

**May** - Weed abatement letters (see attachment A) are prepared and mailed to the listed vacant parcel owners. This letter indicates the requirements for proper weed abatement. The target date for abatement compliance is set by the Fire & Life Safety Division depending on current weather conditions. The Parks & Recreation Open Space Division will coordinate the weed abatement plans for the upcoming season.



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**May thru End of Fire Season** – Weed abatement commences in City of Roseville open space areas. The Fire & Life Safety Division will respond to complaints from the public and city staff. Site visits may be conducted to determine compliance with the RMC.

**June** – Weed abatement commences on private properties that have failed to comply with the abatement deadline. The Fire & Life Safety Division will coordinate with the Parks & Recreation Open Space Division to have hazards abated. The goal for all weed abatement (both public and private) is to be completed prior to June 20th.

**October** -The Fire & Life Safety Division will draft two council communications. The first communication will list private parcel owners where city abatement was required, authorize billing, and setting a public hearing to hear any objections. The second communication potentially overrules any objections heard at the public hearing and approves the billing. These communications will be forwarded to the City Clerk. Weed abatement invoices are sent to the property owner for work performed by the city contractor, to include an administrative fee as per the Roseville Fire Department fee schedule. If the invoice is not paid within 30 days it is forwarded to the county tax collector for entry and collection with the next tax roll upon which general property taxes are collected as outlined in the RMC. If no parcels are abated by the City of Roseville and there is no need for cost recovery, neither of these council communications are necessary.



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### ATTACHMENT A

DATE

OWNER NAME

OWNER STREET

OWNER CITY, ST, ZIP CODE

### NOTICE TO ABATE FIRE HAZARD

This letter is to notify you that a fire hazard may exist on the undeveloped parcel(s) listed on the following page(s). The law requires that all cut or uncut weeds, grass, vines, vegetation, or other combustible materials be removed when determined to be a fire hazard.

If applicable, all necessary work shall be completed no later than **June 20**. If the property owner does not comply with this notice, the required firebreaks will be made by the City of Roseville. All costs incurred by the City, including a per parcel administration fee, shall be billed directly to the property owner.

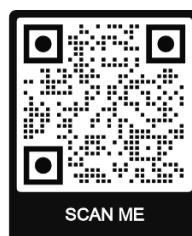
### WEED ABATEMENT GUIDELINES

A clear firebreak of a minimum 30-foot width shall be created and maintained in all areas designated by the City of Roseville. Clear firebreaks shall be provided around all combustible buildings, fences, vehicles, structures, or storage on this parcel or on adjacent properties. We ask that you adhere to the following abatement requirements:

1. The preferred method of weed abatement shall be accomplished by discing and completed so that all weeds, grass, other vegetation, or organic material which can be expected to burn are completely removed or turned under so there is insufficient fuel to sustain or allow the spread of fire.
2. Discing does not negate the requirement for weed removal up to the structure.
3. Where discing is not practical, mowing is permitted where the material is mulched and the remaining weeds do not exceed two inches in height.
4. Spark arrestors shall be installed on all outdoor equipment with internal combustion engines.
5. Parcels that are one acre or less shall be completely abated.

Seasonal rains should be considered prior to abating weeds. Late rains will produce late growing weeds. Weeds once mowed, may require additional mowing. The weed abatement program's intent is to reduce the fire hazard during fire season.

**This letter is intended for parcels that are undeveloped. If the property has been developed or sold, please disregard this notice and scan the QR Code below to update the parcel information or you may complete and return the following page(s) to the Roseville Fire Department, 316 Vernon Street, Suite 480, Roseville, CA 95678.**





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### Notice to Abate Fire Hazard

OWNER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ASSESOR PARCEL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

SITE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please check the box below depicting the current status of the property listed above.

- This property has been developed.
- This property has been sold.

If the property listed above has been sold, please provide the date of sale and contact information of the new owner below.

Date Sold: \_\_\_\_\_

New Owner Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Roseville Fire Department  
Attn: Weed Abatement Coordinator  
316 Vernon St, Suite 480  
Roseville, CA 95678

Please remember: If applicable, all necessary work shall be completed by June 20